



## Parish Matters

### Welcome...

to our weekly edition of Parish Matters – we hope you enjoy catching up with news and prayers from the Parish.

**Sunday 10th December**

**The Second Sunday of Advent**

### This week's special prayers

#### The collect of the week

Almighty God,  
purify our hearts and minds,  
that when your Son Jesus Christ  
comes again as  
judge and saviour  
we may be ready to receive him,  
who is our Lord and our God.  
Amen

#### Eco Church Prayer for December

God of blessings, the universe sings of your glory. Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awaken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other. Inspire world leaders at COP28, with openness to listen to those most affected by climate change and with courage to act urgently and wisely, so that our common home may be healed and restored and all people, and generations to come, may delight in it. Amen

## Welcome to today's service

### Prayers

**Prayers & Readings:** Monthly prayers and the daily lectionary readings are available in Sunrise and on the parish website. [www.potr-alton.co.uk](http://www.potr-alton.co.uk)

**Prayer Cascade.** If you need prayer for any reason please contact [pray4potr@gmail.com](mailto:pray4potr@gmail.com). A prayer team will pray regularly for each request. Please pray for each person by name.

**Those who are ill and require prayer:** Bethan, Gwen Pettigrew, Charlotte, Jenny Thompson, Sarah Broadbent, Sally Stoodley, Dennis Milns, Alex Cannon, Paddy Mendham, Mike Harding, Jennifer Arnold, Jill, Jenny Lawrence, Judith Shadey, Ben and David.

If you or someone you know would like to be included here please let Philippa Penfold know ([office@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:office@potr-alton.co.uk))

**Those who are bereaved – families and friends of** Brigit Hayes, Thelma Butland, Eric Pritchett, Douglas Warner, Elizabeth Crow, Carol Murrell, Pearl Dorey and Roger Tibble, Leo Hill and George Littlewood,

## **Proclaiming the Risen Jesus, Steadfast in faith, Active in Service**

### **This week's extra Services**

- **Facebook Live Morning Prayer** Monday to Friday 9am @POTRALton
- **St Lawrence Teddies** Monday morning 9.30am in St Lawrence Church
- **GAP Traidcraft Coffee Morning**, every Tuesday from 10-12 at Alton Methodist Church
- **Holybourne Coffee morning** followed by Prayers on Tuesday 10am-11.45am (Prayers 11:45 am to 12 noon) at Church of the Holy Rood.
- **Holybourne Teddies** in Holybourne Church on Wednesday 9.45am
- **Holy Communion** at All Saints at 10am on Wednesday
- **Glow** after School group for children in school years 3 to 6 Thursdays 3.15pm to 5pm in St Lawrence Church

Please see our website [www.potr-alton.co.uk](http://www.potr-alton.co.uk) for a full list of church services, news and events for this month.

## **News and notices**

**Associate Vicar Appointment** We interviewed last week and we have agreed an appointment which is very good news. At this stage certain checks are being made and we are conscious that Christmas is a difficult time for the 'person' to announce they are leaving where they are. Therefore the announcement of who it is will be made on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January. We hope that the new person will move into the Holybourne Vicarage during February and will be licensed to begin here with us just after Easter.

**Funeral of Roger Tibble** We were sad to hear the news of Roger's death. His funeral takes place at St Lawrence Church on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**Advent Reflections** As we journey through the season of advent, the Church of the Good Shepherd in Four Marks are putting together some short daily reflections with local clergy and licensed ministers. These reflections will be shown on You Tube. You can follow this link to watch the reflection each day. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZJRXMo1sNUTLOrrx7xY9Edpx2WCxY2BI>

**Christingle** at St Lawrence Church Sunday **10th December at 4pm** straight after the Christmas Tree Festival. A beautiful service for families. Come and decorate your orange with sweets and learn about how Jesus is the Light of the World. Donations will go to the Children's Society.

### **All Saints Hard of Hearing Christmas Carol Service on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>**

**December at 2.30pm** in All Saints Church. Revd Wendy Burnhams is leading the service along with a lip speaker. Everyone is invited. The service will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

**Christmas Card Boards** - as in previous years there will be boards in each of the churches for your Christmas cards to the rest of the parish. Please consider sending one card to your friends in the church as it saves on the number of cards which have to be recycled so is great for the environment. Boards will be in place from the beginning of December. The Eco Church Team

**Pop-Up Carols 2023 on a green space near you.** Pop-Up Carols has now started for this year! We continue popping up until the **20<sup>th</sup> of December**, Alton Churches (Parish of the Resurrection, Harvest Church, the Butts Church and the Alton Methodist Church) are hosting these events that will bring the festive spirit to your doorstep. These evenings will take place in various green spaces throughout Alton, Beech and Holybourne. Please see our website for dates, times and locations. [www.potr-alton.co.uk/pop-up-carols-2023/](http://www.potr-alton.co.uk/pop-up-carols-2023/) You are welcome to attend any of the sessions.

**The Alton's Women's Refuge** wishes to thank everyone who has so kindly continued to donate items throughout this year. If anyone would like to donate Christmas gifts to the refuge, they are in need of pens, pencils, plain paper and general toiletries, including some items for early teenage boys would be welcome. These can be left in the box at the back of St Lawrence Church. Thank you for your generosity.

**Warm Winter Community Lunch** Alton Town Council are holding a Warm Winter Community Lunch on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January** from 12-2pm at Alton Assembly Rooms. This will be specifically for older people and invitations will be sent out via different community groups. It will be a great event which will only be so if there are a number of volunteers and I hope that The Parish of the Resurrection will be generous with this. People to help serve the food, be around to talk to the guests, help set up and take down etc would be greatly appreciated. Resurrection Furniture have made a generous donation to help this event. If you can help then please would you let Emily Messenger at Alton Town Council know - [events@alton.gov.uk](mailto:events@alton.gov.uk)

**POTR Advent Window Trail** is now in full swing. A new Advent window will be revealed each day leading up to Christmas Eve. The windows will be lit up between 4pm to 7pm for you to go and enjoy! The trail will take you around Alton and Holybourne. To see a list of the locations and an interactive map, please go to our website [www.potr-alton.co.uk/potr-advent-windows-2023/](http://www.potr-alton.co.uk/potr-advent-windows-2023/)

**Alton Foodbank.** The Foodbank has been blessed by numerous schools and other organisations who gave their Harvest Collections to them and their warehouse is looking fairly well stocked but they are still in need of tinned meat,

tinned fish, tinned vegetables, long life fruit juice, tinned custard, sponge puddings (long life), tinned rice pudding, sanitary towels and tampons

**Curious about Faith?** We have a new Alpha course starting on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January** at Alton Maltings brought to you by Alton Churches. The evening will start at 7pm with a free meal, followed by a video and chance to chat and ask questions about faith. It's free of charge so why not come and check it out? For more information email [alptonplusalpha@gmail.com](mailto:alptonplusalpha@gmail.com)

### Next Sunday Service 17th December

10.30am	<b>Carols for All</b>	St Lawrence Church
10.30am	<b>Communion with Carols</b>	All Saints Church
6pm	<b>Carol Service</b>	Holybourne Church
10am	<b>Carol Service</b>	St Mary's Church, Bentworth
5pm	<b>Carol Service</b>	St Peter & St Paul's Church. Shalden

### The Ministry Team

**Vicar:** Revd Canon Andrew Micklefield [andrew@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:andrew@potr-alton.co.uk) 88794  
**Assistant Priest:** Revd Bruce Nicole [revbrucenicole@gmail.com](mailto:revbrucenicole@gmail.com) 07974 021764  
**Assistant Priest:** Revd Peter Brown [petelaine@btinternet.com](mailto:petelaine@btinternet.com) 01420 549943  
**Assistant Priest:** Revd Lynn Power [revlynnpower@outlook.com](mailto:revlynnpower@outlook.com) 07850 232995  
**Assistant Priest:** Revd Martin East [martineast@btinternet.com](mailto:martineast@btinternet.com) 549595  
**Assistant Priest:** Revd Jon Rooke [jonrooke@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jonrooke@hotmail.co.uk) 07519 046593  
**Curate:** Revd Wendy Burnhams [wendy@burnhamsfamily.co.uk](mailto:wendy@burnhamsfamily.co.uk) 07514 280362  
**Anna Chaplain** Kate Powell [annachaplainalton@gmail.com](mailto:annachaplainalton@gmail.com) 07539 026546  
**Anna Chaplain Pioneer:** Canon Debbie Thrower [debbie.thrower@brf.org.uk](mailto:debbie.thrower@brf.org.uk)  
**General Enquiries to the Parish Administrators** Philippa Penfold & Ellie Elder  
**Office email address** [office@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:office@potr-alton.co.uk) **01420 513881**

**The Parish Office will be open Tuesday to Friday between 9am – 12pm  
at All Saints Church Hall.**

**QR CODE!** Your donation helps sustain our buildings, ministry, youth work and much more. Your donation can also be gift aided. Why not give it a go using this QR code. Thank you!

